



Palmetto Scholars Academy

2415 Avenue F
North Charleston, SC 29405

Grades	6-11 Middle School	
Enrollment	320 Students	
Principal	Martha B Hale	843-300-4118
Superintendent	Wayne Brazell, Ph. D.	803-734-8322
Board Chair	Don McLaurin	803-603-1441

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

2014

ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT CARD

RATINGS OVER 5-YEAR PERIOD

YEAR	ABSOLUTE RATING	GROWTH RATING
2014	Excellent	Excellent
2013	Excellent	Good
2012	Excellent	Excellent
2011	Excellent	Good
2010	N/A	N/A

DEFINITIONS OF SCHOOL RATING TERMS

- Excellent - School performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- Good - School performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- Average - School performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- Below Average - School is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- At-Risk - School performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision

SOUTH CAROLINA PERFORMANCE VISION

By 2020 all students will graduate with the knowledge and skills necessary to compete successfully in the global economy, participate in a democratic society and contribute positively as members of families and communities.

<http://ed.sc.gov>
<http://www.eoc.sc.gov>

Percent of Student SC PASS Records Matched for Purpose of Computing Growth Rating

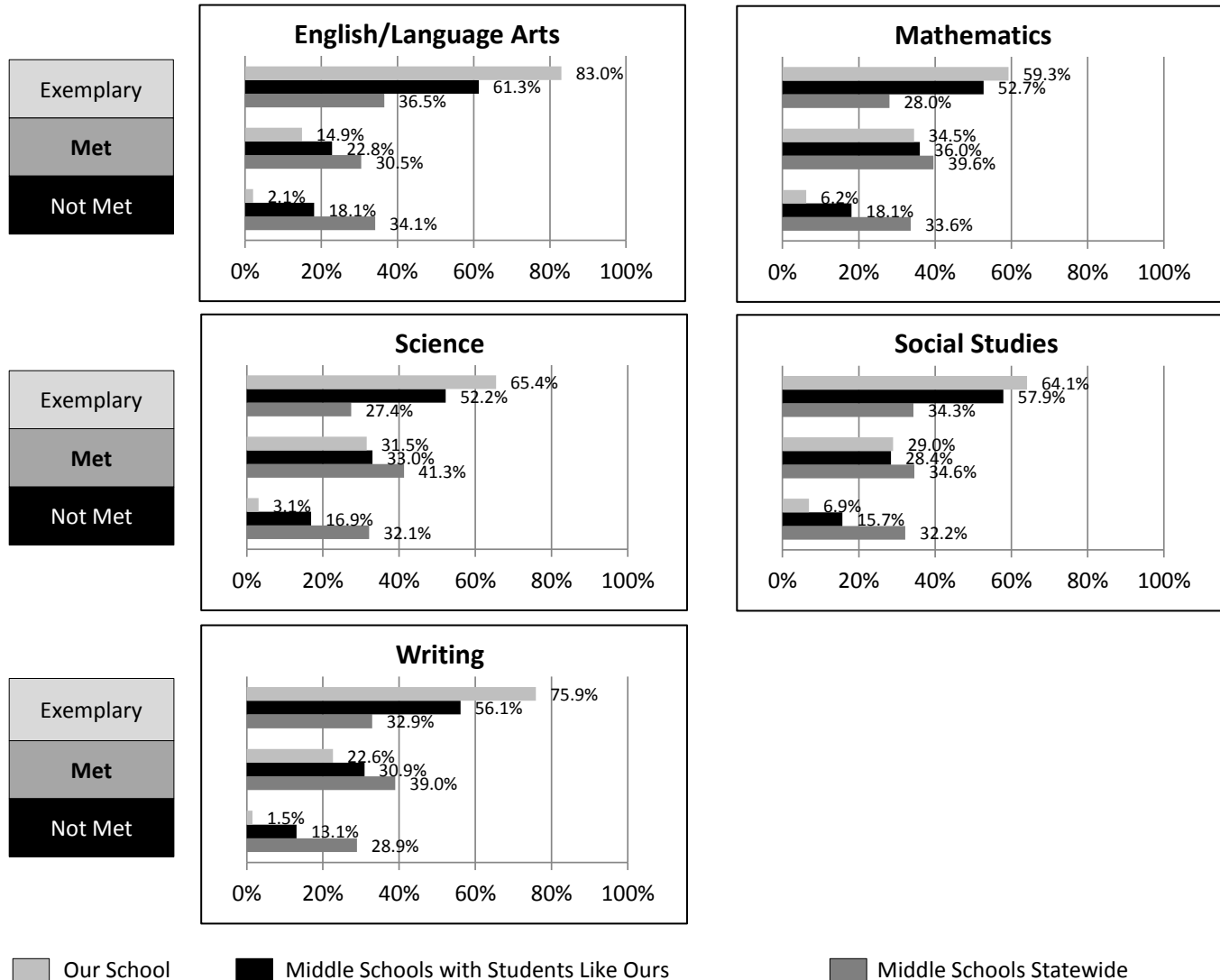
Percent of students tested in 2013-14 whose 2012-13 test scores were located 92.3%

ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF MIDDLE SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average	At-Risk
7	0	1	0	0

* Ratings are calculated with data available by 04/27/2015.

South Carolina Palmetto Assessment of State Standards (SC PASS)



* Middle Schools with Students Like Ours are middle schools with poverty indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for the school.

Definition of Critical Terms

Exemplary	"Exemplary" means student demonstrated exemplary performance in meeting the grade level standard.
Met	"Met" means student met the grade level standard.
Not Met	"Not Met" means that the student did not meet the grade level standard.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A-Not Applicable N/AV-Not Available N/C-Not Collected N/R-Not Reported I/S-Insufficient Sample

School Profile

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours	Median Middle School
Students (n = 320)				
Students enrolled in high school credit courses (grades 7 & 8)	100.0%	Up from 72.5%	51.7%	26.0%
Retention Rate	3.0%	Up from 0.0%	0.5%	0.6%
Attendance Rate	96.6%	Down from 96.7%	96.7%	96.2%
Served by gifted and talented program	58.4%	Up from 51.7%	36.2%	19.4%
With disabilities	0.0%	No change	8.6%	12.8%
Older than usual for grade	0.7%	Up from 0.0%	1.5%	4.5%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	0.3%	Up from 0.0%	0.3%	0.4%
Annual dropout rate	0.0%	No change	0.0%	0.0%
Teachers (n = 22)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	45.5%	Down from 47.4%	54.4%	61.3%
Continuing contract teachers	40.9%	Down from 47.4%	79.5%	75.9%
Teachers returning from previous year	61.1%	N/A	85.6%	85.4%
Teacher attendance rate	92.9%	Down from 98.6%	95.9%	95.2%
Average teacher salary*	\$41,662	Up 4.0%	\$47,447	\$47,081
Professional development days/teacher	0.7 days	Up from 0.4 days	11.8 days	10.6 days
School				
Principal's years at school	2.0	Up from 1.0	1.5	3.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	20.8 to 1	N/A	21.7 to 1	21.5 to 1
Prime instructional time	89.1%	Down from 95.3%	90.7%	90.1%
Opportunities in the arts	Good	Down from Excellent	Excellent	Good
SACS accreditation	No	No change	Yes	Yes
Parents attending conferences	65.2%	Down from 87.3%	96.8%	99.0%
Character development program	Good	Up from Average	Excellent	Good
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$6,220	Up 0.2%	\$7,801	\$7,616
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	53.6%	Up from 53.0%	59.8%	62.0%
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	46.7%	Down from 47.0%	59.3%	61.3%

* Includes current year teachers contracted for 185 or more days.

** Prior year audited financial data are reported.

End of Course Tests

Percent of tests with scores of 70 or above on:	Our Middle School	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours
Algebra 1/Math for the Technologies 2	94.8%	99.1%
English 1	94.9%	98.7%
Biology 1	N/A	N/A
US History and the Constitution	N/A	N/A
All Subjects	94.9%	99.0%

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A-Not Applicable

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N/C-Not Collected

N/R-Not Reported

I/S-Insufficient Sample

Report of Principal and School Improvement Council

Palmetto Scholars Academy provides a differentiated program designed to meet the educational needs of intellectually gifted learners, address their distinctive social and emotional needs, promote individual character development and instill a life-long love of learning. Our students engage with leading innovative organizations in higher education, business and science, to empower them to make original and impactful contributions toward the elevation of South Carolina in the areas of education, commerce, arts and science.

Our students come together from all areas of the LowCountry, including Berkeley, Charleston, Colleton, and Dorchester Counties, and represent a diverse population in terms of ethnicity, religion, and socioeconomic status. In order to meet the school's mission, all students are in honors or advanced courses, and flexible scheduling allows faculty to meet the individual needs of each gifted learner. Visitors to the school would likely see cooperative groupings, discussion, debate, seminars, and inquiry-based learning as they walk the hallways. Most faculty have advanced degrees and all are dedicated to providing research-based, student-centered instruction for gifted learners. The development of our curriculum is facilitated by nationally recognized leaders in the field of gifted education who ensure that the latest research on best practices in gifted education is incorporated at all grade levels.

During the fourth year of operation, students at Palmetto Scholars Academy made tremendous positive gains, continuing to excel in statewide assessments, being selected as the first school in South Carolina to send a student research experiment to the International Space Station, being selected as a NASA Partner School through the College of Charleston's NASA Consortium, and having several teachers selected for participation in highly sought after teacher education programs including a social studies teacher who was selected for participation in the Library of Congress's teacher education program in Washington, DC. Community service requirements have expanded during the 2013-14 school year, and PSA continues to work supporting local charitable events on a regular basis.

The school community, which consists of faculty, staff, students, and supportive parents, is proud of the great accomplishments and successes that Palmetto Scholars Academy has been able to achieve in only four years of operation. An active parent organization, partnered with a long-range strategic plan, ensures a successful vision for our school's future as South Carolina's first public charter for gifted education. We are driven by our mission and strive to maintain the highest of standards in order to meet the unique needs of gifted learners.

Evaluations by Teachers, Students and Parents

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	N/A	N/A	N/A
Percent satisfied with learning environment	N/A	N/A	N/A
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	N/A	N/A	N/A
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	N/A	N/A	N/A

* Only students at the highest middle school grade level and their parents were included.

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ESEA/Federal Accountability Rating System

In July 2013, the South Carolina Department of Education was granted a waiver from several accountability requirements of the Federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). This waiver allowed SC to replace the former pass/fail system with one that utilizes more of the statewide assessments already in place and combine these subject area results with graduation rate (in high schools) to determine if each school met the target or made progress toward the target. This analysis results in a letter grade for the school rather than the pass/fail system of previous years. For a detailed review of the matrix for each school and districts that determined the letter grade, please use the following link: <http://ed.sc.gov/data/esea/> or request this information from your child's district or school.

Overall Weighted Points Total	100
Overall Grade Conversion	A

Index Score	Grade	Description
90-100	A	Performance substantially exceeds the state's expectations.
80-89.9	B	Performance exceeds the state's expectations.
70-79.9	C	Performance meets the state's expectations.
60-69.9	D	Performance does not meet the state's expectations.
Less than 60	F	Performance is substantially below the states' expectations.

Accountability Indicator (Title I Schools)

Palmetto Scholars Academy has been designated as a:

	Title I Reward School for Performance - among the highest performing Title I schools in a given year.
	Title I Reward School for Progress - one of the schools with substantial progress in school subgroups.
	Title I Focus School - one of the schools with the highest average performance gap between subgroups.
	Title I Priority School - one of the 5% lowest performing Title I schools.
	Title I School - does not qualify as Reward, Focus or Priority School.
X	Non-Title I School - therefore the designations above are not applicable.

Teacher Quality and Student Attendance

	Our District	State	
Classes in low poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	11	3.2%	
Classes in high poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	24.6	7.3%	
	Our School	State Objective	Met State Objective
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	9.4%	0.0%	No
Student attendance rate	96.6%	94.0%*	Yes
			State
Professional qualifications of all elementary and secondary teachers in the State (Advanced Degrees)			61.9%
Percentage of all elementary and secondary teachers in the State with emergency or provisional credentials			0.0%

* Or greater than last year

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SC PASS Performance By Group - ESEA/Federal Accountability

Subgroups	ELA Mean	Math Mean	Science Mean	Social Studies Mean*	ELA % Tested	Math % Tested	Science % Tested
Grades 6-8							
All Students	678.5	671.2	682.3	670.8	100.0	100.0	100.0
Male	676.1	681.0	697.1	683.3	100.0	100.0	100.0
Female	680.6	662.3	669.1	660.8	100.0	100.0	100.0
White	683.2	678.0	694.0	678.9	100.0	100.0	100.0
African American	664.5	653.0	650.2	657.7	100.0	100.0	100.0
Asian/Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hispanic	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
American Indian/Alaskan Native	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
With Disabilities	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Limited English Proficient	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Subsidized Meals	662.0	650.8	N/A	N/A	100.0	100.0	N/A
Migrant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Annual Measurable Objective (AMO)	632.0	632.0	632.0	632.0	95.0	95.0	95.0

* Social Studies used as "Other Academic Indicator" for elementary and middle schools.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A-Not Applicable

N/AV-Not Available

N/C-Not Collected

N/R-Not Reported

I/S-Insufficient Sample

Two Year Elementary and Middle School Grades Trend Data

	Grade	SCPASS ELA			SCPASS Math		
		N	Mean	% Tested	N	Mean	% Tested
2013	3	N/A	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/AV
	4	N/A	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/AV
	5	N/A	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/AV
	6	72	681.2	100.0	72	655.5	100.0
	7	65	669.1	100.0	65	667.7	100.0
	8	69	677.1	100.0	69	654.2	100.0
		SCPASS Science			SCPASS Social Studies*/History		
		N	Mean	% Tested	N	Mean	% Tested
	3	N/A	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/AV
	4	N/A	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/AV
	5	N/A	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/AV
	6	36	657.3	100.0	36	687.1	100.0
	7	65	671.8	100.0	65	654.1	100.0
	8	34	649.0	100.0	35	648.5	100.0

	Grade	SCPASS ELA			SCPASS Math		
		N	Mean	% Tested	N	Mean	% Tested
2014	3	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	70	689.4	100.0	70	684.0	100.0
	7	67	678.1	100.0	67	663.6	100.0
	8	59	665.5	100.0	59	664.3	100.0
		SCPASS Science			SCPASS Social Studies*/History		
		N	Mean	% Tested	N	Mean	% Tested
	3	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	34	678.5	100.0	36	680.6	100.0
	7	67	679.0	100.0	67	665.6	100.0
	8	30	694.2	100.0	29	670.4	100.0

* Social Studies used as "Other Academic Indicator" for elementary and middle schools.

NOTE: Results include the SC-ALT test.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A-Not Applicable

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N/R-Not Reported

I/S-Insufficient Sample

Performance by Group - ESEA/Federal Accountability (District)							4/27/2015	4701010
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Subgroups	ELA Mean	Math Mean	Science Mean	Soc Studies*/ History Mean	ELA % Tested	Math % Tested	Science % Tested	Graduation Rate
Grades 3 - 5								
All Students	644.4	631.7	622.0	637.6	98.3	99.3	99.6	N/A
Male	638.8	630.3	620.3	639.0	98.0	99.3	99.6	N/A
Female	650.5	633.2	624.0	636.2	98.5	99.4	99.5	N/A
White	653.5	640.9	631.4	646.8	98.5	99.4	99.7	N/A
African American	617.2	602.3	591.8	612.0	97.8	99.3	98.9	N/A
Asian/Pacific Islander	670.1	683.8	660.2	661.1	100.0	100.0	100.0	N/A
Hispanic	635.8	616.3	613.2	627.3	96.8	98.1	100.0	N/A
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
With Disabilities	607.1	587.4	582.0	604.3	90.8	99.2	99.4	N/A
Limited English Proficient	621.4	617.0	607.7	618.3	100.0	100.0	100.0	N/A
Subsidized Meals	630.1	613.8	605.2	620.2	98.1	99.4	99.7	N/A
Migrant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Annual Measurable Objective (AMO)	640.0	640.0	640.0	640.0	95.0	95.0	95.0	N/A
Grades 6 - 8								
All Students	636.0	627.6	625.6	625.9	99.4	99.3	99.5	N/A
Male	630.3	628.5	628.6	629.6	99.1	99.1	99.5	N/A
Female	641.7	626.7	622.6	622.2	99.6	99.5	99.5	N/A
White	640.3	632.1	630.4	630.0	99.4	99.3	99.5	N/A
African American	618.5	609.9	606.6	613.6	99.3	99.3	99.3	N/A
Asian/Pacific Islander	677.8	667.8	N/A	N/A	100.0	100.0	N/A	N/A
Hispanic	635.0	623.5	624.0	614.0	98.9	98.9	99.2	N/A
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	100.0	100.0	N/A	N/A
With Disabilities	581.5	584.2	581.9	587.0	99.7	99.7	99.6	N/A
Limited English Proficient	620.4	608.2	608.4	608.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	N/A
Subsidized Meals	621.0	612.8	610.8	611.6	99.2	99.2	99.3	N/A
Migrant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Annual Measurable Objective (AMO)	632.0	632.0	632.0	632.0	95.0	95.0	95.0	N/A
Grades 9 - 12								
All Students	228.0	215.4	81.4	70.5	96.3	95.9	100.0	38.1
Male	223.1	215.6	81.7	72.3	95.8	95.3	100.0	33.8
Female	231.6	215.1	81.1	69.4	96.6	96.4	100.0	41.1
White	229.4	217.3	82.2	71.1	96.1	95.8	100.0	37.7
African American	220.7	204.5	76.6	67.1	96.3	95.5	100.0	41.3
Asian/Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	35.3
Hispanic	229.1	214.8	80.9	72.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	38.8
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	21.4
With Disabilities	206.9	193.2	69.4	64.5	93.4	93.4	100.0	25.2
Limited English Proficient	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	27.3
Subsidized Meals	223.6	209.8	79.0	68.6	95.5	94.9	100.0	28.6
Migrant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Annual Measurable Objective (AMO)	229.0	226.0	78.0	75.0	95.0	95.0	95.0	75.1

* Social Studies used as "Other Academic Indicator" for elementary and middle schools.

Performance by Group - ESEA/Federal Accountability (State)							4/27/2015	4701010
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Subgroups	ELA Mean	Math Mean	Science Mean	Soc Studies* / History Mean	ELA % Tested	Math % Tested	Science % Tested	Graduation Rate
Grades 3 - 5								
All Students	643.8	644.3	626.4	645.0	99.7	99.8	99.8	N/A
Male	638.9	643.9	627.0	646.5	99.7	99.8	99.8	N/A
Female	649.0	644.6	625.8	643.4	99.8	99.9	99.8	N/A
White	659.5	662.7	644.4	659.5	99.8	99.9	99.8	N/A
African American	622.3	617.3	601.2	624.1	99.7	99.8	99.7	N/A
Asian/Pacific Islander	669.9	686.6	655.9	673.4	99.9	100.0	99.8	N/A
Hispanic	631.7	634.6	614.5	636.5	99.7	99.9	99.9	N/A
American Indian/Alaskan	642.1	640.4	627.1	641.8	99.7	99.9	99.5	N/A
With Disabilities	599.3	596.5	587.6	609.2	98.9	99.5	99.5	N/A
Limited English Proficient	631.2	638.6	615.0	638.1	99.7	99.9	99.9	N/A
Subsidized Meals	627.7	625.2	609.4	628.7	99.7	99.8	99.7	N/A
Migrant	608.2	615.1	590.4	623.4	100.0	100.0	100.0	N/A
Annual Measurable Objective (AMO)	640.0	640.0	640.0	640.0	95.0	95.0	95.0	N/A
Grades 6 - 8								
All Students	627.8	632.2	634.7	637.4	99.7	99.7	99.7	N/A
Male	620.6	630.1	634.4	639.8	99.7	99.7	99.6	N/A
Female	635.4	634.3	635.0	634.9	99.8	99.8	99.7	N/A
White	644.3	647.7	652.3	652.3	99.8	99.8	99.7	N/A
African American	604.3	608.5	608.9	615.2	99.7	99.7	99.6	N/A
Asian/Pacific Islander	658.5	680.2	673.0	677.3	99.9	99.9	99.9	N/A
Hispanic	617.3	625.4	625.0	630.5	99.7	99.7	99.7	N/A
American Indian/Alaskan	629.4	631.2	637.2	638.3	99.9	99.8	99.7	N/A
With Disabilities	574.5	584.3	584.9	592.8	99.4	99.4	99.2	N/A
Limited English Proficient	612.5	625.8	622.5	629.8	99.6	99.7	99.8	N/A
Subsidized Meals	610.0	614.6	616.3	619.9	99.7	99.7	99.6	N/A
Migrant	586.4	606.8	600.8	607.7	98.2	98.2	100.0	N/A
Annual Measurable Objective (AMO)	632.0	632.0	632.0	632.0	95.0	95.0	95.0	N/A
Grades 9 - 12								
All Students	229.3	222.6	81.8	74.9	98.7	98.7	100.0	80.0
Male	225.6	222.4	81.8	75.9	98.3	98.3	100.0	75.7
Female	233.2	222.9	81.9	74.0	99.2	99.1	100.0	84.5
White	235.9	230.8	86.1	78.1	99.0	98.9	100.0	82.8
African American	219.6	209.6	75.2	69.9	98.3	98.3	100.0	76.0
Asian/Pacific Islander	240.2	245.8	89.4	80.3	99.3	99.3	100.0	88.0
Hispanic	225.1	219.4	79.5	73.5	98.9	99.0	100.0	76.9
American Indian/Alaskan	228.8	220.3	81.9	77.2	98.9	99.3	100.0	74.3
With Disabilities	204.3	196.5	68.4	66.2	96.6	96.5	100.0	43.2
Limited English Proficient	218.0	214.7	76.6	71.3	99.3	99.3	100.0	73.4
Subsidized Meals	221.1	212.6	76.8	70.8	98.3	98.2	100.0	72.5
Migrant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	61.5
Annual Measurable Objective (AMO)	229.0	226.0	78.0	75.0	95.0	95.0	95.0	75.1

* Social Studies used as "Other Academic Indicator" for elementary and middle schools.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

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N/C-Not Collected

N/R-Not Reported

I/S-Insufficient Sample

*Performance reported for SC and nation, data not available at school level.

Reading - Grade 4 (2013)



Mathematics - Grade 4 (2013)



Reading - Grade 8 (2013)



Mathematics - Grade 8 (2013)



Key

NSLP National school lunch program

SD Student with disabilities

ELL English language learner

NAEP National Association of Education Progress

	SD Participation Rate	ELL Participation Rate
Reading, Grade 4	89.0%	96.0%
Reading, Grade 8	85.0%	96.0%
Mathematics, Grade 4	93.0%	99.0%
Mathematics, Grade 8	90.0%	95.0%

Our School

Number of recently arrived ELL students exempted from ELA in state assessments

0

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